

ALL EAGER TO SEE BEFORE THEY BUY

Shop Windows Catch a Multitude of Eyes During the Evening Hours.

CROWDS SWARM EVERYWHERE

Men and Women Exercising for That Christmas Eve Parade by Night.

Naturally enough one wants to see before one will buy. Therefore there is nothing surprising in the fact that Broad and kindred streets are packed these nights. The windows of the various shops offer attractions of sufficient interest to bring out almost any one who is at all interested. And who is not interested at this time of year? Gift buying has largely developed into a science. If one has bought, one wants to know whether one has bought wisely. The fellow who feels that he has won a place forever in the affections of his lady fair finds a peculiar delight in taking her before the window of the shop in which is arrayed in charming elegance the very gift he has purchased, and by subtle methods securing an expression of opinion before the gift is actually received.

Lights Offer Opportunity.
The added lights offer magnificent opportunity. Nothing is hidden from view. Just as evident as under a noonday sun are the myriad things which an artist in his particular line of work has displayed with care and trouble, so that the unwary and the unsuspecting may feed. Therefore, again, no wonder that the streets are crowded.

No moth was ever more attracted by the proverbial candle than are the people of Richmond by the added lustre to Broad Street. They walk and walk and walk, and just to add a little variety they walk some more. Of course, there are side trips to the aforementioned alluring windows. Some time is always spent in front of these windows. Then comments are in order.

Did you ever notice the manner in which any given object was led to? With marvelous dexterity the only girl-in-the-world is diverted from the hurrying hordes and literally planted in front of a window. Then she is pointed out everything in that window, down least related to what will be her gift on Christmas morning. Finally, with diplomatic precision she is shown the "thing" which will be hers. Then follows a moment of mental turbulence, during which the "onliest only" is framing her opinion.

Easily Led Around.
On the other hand, was it ever your pleasure to watch the naive manner in which the girl who really likes you will find the leading togethery or the most popular cigar store attractive? She doesn't tell you that your gift is in the glass inclosure, but she usually has a brother who has bought something at that store, and she wants to get around to what will be yours on Christmas morning, and also she will regard you as a man-about-town. Always be on the safe side—if you want the girl.

That, or those, are some of the reasons why the crowd was so thick on Broad Street last night. Then there are others. Some have forgotten to buy when they should have bought. They are bringing along the very same sort and are endeavoring in the very same manner—even as they have since Christmas first—what will be your pleasure or what you will most highly regard. Be easily pleased, and like all you look at. You will save yourself lots of trouble, whether you be sister or brother, mother or father, steady company or occasional visitor.

Old Kris Is the Crowd.
Old Kris must have his fun, and he usually picks the youngsters. His sleeve must be abnormally large if it is to hide all the laughs he earns with his pranks. He always comes in advance, and he stays until the show is over. The whole gamut of life's affections are his without the asking. Palace and hovel, pride and poverty, rich and poor, lover and forlorn—all come within his ken, and he smiles or sighs, laughs or sheds tears, commiserates or congratulates, with equal facility as the occasion demands.

He dominates the crowd. He is the crowd. Though many-sided, he is the most compact individual in the world. He is everything and nothing. And among the hundreds of people who thronged the streets last night, observing, but unobserved—though strongly felt—he was in evidence, and he guided the hand of the "onliest only" and the diplomat lover with equal agility. Though the jingling of his bells are felt rather than seen, he is the most potent factor in bringing out the crowd, and he will continue in power until with pleasure-laden feet the Christmas stocking is reached, and the mysteries, no longer mysteries, become the realities of Christmas Day.

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PACKED INSIDE EACH ROLL OF

CONGO ROOFING

NEVER LEAK

Congo is the only Ready Roofing carrying the National Surety Co.'s bond. It carries with it terms and conditions that make it especially attractive to anyone who must consider the roofing question.

For 10 years you can rest easy about your roofs if covered with 3-ply Congo, and we know that it is probable you will get even longer service out of it.

The Surety Company is issuing these bonds, and back of them is their two million dollars of assets. It is a matter of keen satisfaction to us that they were willing to stand behind Congo Roofing. You are immune from any responsibility other than giving the roofing ordinary care. Write to-day for samples of Congo and full information.

Remember, that with every roll of Congo you get a genuine Surety Bond.

Hopkins Furniture Co.,
Richmond, Va.

GROOMED FOR U. S. SENATE



WILLIAM F. SHEEHAN.
He is mentioned as successor of Chauncey M. Depew, of New York.

MAYOR GAYNOR IS DISPLEASED WITH DR. WILSON

Does Not Like the Clamor Over the Subway Situation.

New York, December 21.—Mayor Gaynor is displeased at the clamor over the subway situation here. Since the public service commission recommended yesterday the acceptance of an offer of the Interborough Rapid Transit Company to extend the subway system, acute difference of opinion has arisen among city officials, and a clash seems probable at the board of estimate meeting to-morrow, when the matter is considered. The Mayor made public to-night a letter, in which he chides the public for opposing the Interborough offer.

"We have not yet reached the period of municipal operation," writes His Honor. "The people of this city will not be prepared for municipal operation until they have become sufficiently educated and honest themselves to elect competent and honest officials, and thus have honest government all the time. When we look about and see the dishonesty and graft which exist now, we cannot wish to add thereto by putting the operation of our railroads in official hands."

Mumps at Naval Station.
Norfolk, Va., December 21.—An epidemic of mumps has broken out at the St. Helena naval station, and an invitation to the enlisted men there from a local Methodist preacher to attend Christmas services at his church Sunday had to be declined as a result. One entire company of 150 men is under strict quarantine.

THREE LIVES LOST; SIX ARE INJURED

Property Loss in Cincinnati's Great Fire More Than \$2,000,000.

AN ENTIRE BLOCK BURNS

Firemen Helpless as Flames Are Driven by the Wind.

Cincinnati, O., December 21.—A dozen streams still played to-night upon the smoldering wrecks of the fire that destroyed a block of Cincinnati's manufacturing district early to-day. Re-estimation of the loss in life and property shows the disaster to be larger than any of the estimates placed during the progress of the conflagration.

The final count shows that three men lost their lives, six were injured, one perhaps fatally, while the property loss is more than \$2,000,000, covered by insurance to the extent of \$1,400,000.

The origin of the blaze is unknown, but the manner in which the huge buildings burned caused belief of members of the fire department and insurance men that it was of incendiary nature.

The body of Charles Schwegel, ladder man of Fire Company No. 15, now is believed to be burned in the ruins. An entire block from Ninth to Sycamore to Broadway was swept by flames. The firms burned out are: Krippendorf & O'Neal Shoe Company, southeast corner Ninth and Sycamore Streets.

Taylor Poole Leather Company, northeast corner Ninth and Sycamore Streets.

Shoe Company.

Twinkl Company, adjoining Krippendorf & O'Neal Shoe Company, on the south.

Sycamore Street Stable Company, barn.

Griss Pflieger Leather Company, Victor Sage and Lock Company, northwest corner Ninth Street and Broadway.

Warehouse of the A. & J. Nurrie Company, picture frames and moldings, Broadway, opposite Ninth.

E. O. Duncan Paper Box Factory, adjoining the Nurrie Warehouse.

Wildberg Box Factory, in the rear of the Nurrie plant.

The fire, it is believed, started in the engine room of the plant of the Krippendorf & O'Neal Co. Hardly had the fire been discovered when the flames leaped from almost every window from cellar to roof. When the fire apparatus arrived it was seen that the shoe factory was doomed, and the firemen turned to the work of trying to save adjoining buildings. They practically surrounded the fire with water, but it had too much of a start, and aided by the wind, it continued to spread from building to building.

MAN ON STEAMER JUMPS INTO SEA

Old Dominion Officials Trying to Learn Identity of Passenger.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Newport News, Va., December 21.—A pool of blood, a thirty-two calibre revolver, with an empty chamber, and a derby hat with a bloodstain on the side, were discovered on the aft main deck of the Old Dominion liner Hamilton by a deck hand as the ship was approaching Cape Henry by the teeth of a fifty-knot gale at dawn this morning, are the only traces that have been found of an unknown passenger who boarded the vessel before it sailed from New York for Norfolk Tuesday afternoon.

The officers of the ship believe that the man shot himself, and after standing against the deck rail for some minutes, either he jumped overboard into the sea, twenty feet below.

Investigation following the deck hand's report revealed the fact that all of the registered passengers were safe and sound in the staterooms, and that every member of the crew was accounted for. Later, however, it developed that the steward and others remembered seeing in the dining-saloon a man who was not a registered passenger and who had not been assigned to a stateroom. This man was tall and slender, apparently about thirty-eight years of age, had iron gray hair, wore a fashionably cut blue suit, and had the appearance of a prosperous business or professional man. Such a person was not to be found aboard the ship this morning.

The Old Dominion officials have communicated with New York in an effort to learn the identity of the suicide. It is believed that the man's relatives and friends will readily recognize the initials and description.

ASK COURT FOR RELIEF.
Citizens of Essex County Protest Against

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Champlain, Va., December 21.—At a large meeting of the citizens of Essex county, held at the courthouse on Monday, resolutions were adopted protesting against the proposed sale of lands of the county. Letters had been written to all the county clerks of the State asking how the lands of the county were being disposed of. From replies received from fifty-four clerks it was seen that in nine counties the first district was sold at an average of about 15 per cent., and that the average increase of the fifty-four counties was about 45 per cent. It was considered that this was unfair, when the showing of the other counties was considered.

The resolutions call these facts to the attention of the court, the assessor and the Commonwealth attorney, and the court is asked to order a revision of the returns in Essex, so that values will be reduced to a reasonable basis.

Gillespie-Scott.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Lynchburg, Va., December 21.—A beautiful home wedding took place at the home of Mrs. Charles Alexander Scott, 1828 Grace Street, when her daughter, Miss Anne Estelle Scott, was wedded to James Harbour Gillespie, of this city. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. W. Tupper Wingfield, pastor of the Franklin Street Baptist Church. After the marriage a brief reception was held, and later the couple went to Richmond to begin their Southern bridal trip. At the completion of the returns in Essex, so that values will be reduced to a reasonable basis.

The maid of honor was Miss Maud Alma Stevens. The best man was Charles Stevens. The bride was given away by her brother, Charles Alexander Scott, Jr.

Miss Bessie Cleland presided at the piano, rendering the wedding march, and accompanying Miss Madeline Shaner, who sang "Because" just before the bride party entered the parlor. The house decorations were unusual.

EVERYWHERE

"THERE IS NONE BETTER"

KENTUCKY GREENBRIER

BOTTLED IN BOND

THE OLD SPRING DISTILLING CO. CINCINNATI, OHIO.

SOLD WHEREVER FINE WHISKEY IS SOLD

ALMOST A RIOT IN COURTROOM

Trial of Self-Styled "Count" D'Aulby De Gagny Develops Sensations.

CROWD HOOTS AND JEERS

Judge Is Compelled to Order Recess to Restore Quiet.

Tours, December 21.—Sensational incidents occurred to-day at the trial of the self-styled "Count" D'Aulby de Gagny and his American wife, formerly Miss Frances Lunt, of Boston, who are charged with having swindled the Duchess of Choiseul-Praslin in the sale of spurious pictures during the life of her former husband, Charles Hamilton Palme, of Boston. The closing moments of the trial this evening almost developed a riot.

"Countess" D'Aulby, who was called to the witness stand after her husband, bitterly attacked the Duchess of Choiseul, designating her "that viper, that shameless woman, who tried to wreck my home."

D'Aulby's lawyer, M. Bernard, attacked the counsel for the Duchess for allowing her business agent to sit beside them at the bar and practically direct the case for the prosecution. This unpardonable breach of etiquette of the French bar he declared was an insult to the dignity of the profession. Cries of sympathy broke out and soon the whole courtroom was on its feet cheering and hooting. Judge Roberts pounded helplessly, but was forced to declare a recess to preserve order.

After the recess, M. Bernard sprung another surprise. He read a letter purporting to be signed by the Duke of Choiseul, claiming that Choiseul, the husband of the former Mrs. Palme, had no right to the title of "Duke of Choiseul," that he was merely the Duke of Praslin's representative in the sale of the house of Choiseul, and a grandson of the Duke of Praslin "of bloody memory."

"Countess" D'Aulby, unlike her husband, speaks French with wonderful rapidity, and she was especially drawn to him by reason of his musical abilities. She never mixed in her husband's business affairs and only knew as a fact that he had sold pictures to Mrs. Palme. She refused to answer questions of the opposing counsel which were calculated to show that she had conspired to heighten the plaintiff's interest in the pictures, saying that persons so alleging were "liars in the first degree."

To complete the day, a Parisian expert who examined the paintings purchased by Mrs. Palme, testified that some of them were deplorable copies, others passable, but that none was what the catalogue pretended. He admitted, however, that they might deceive the ordinary amateur.

AMUSEMENTS

Bijou—"At the Old Cross Roads."
Lubin-Vaudeville.

Christmas Attention.
There is never a dull fraction of a second, in the entirety of "Seven Days," said the New York Journal of Commerce in its review of the comedy that, on its opening night more than a year ago, actually shook the Astor theatre with laughter and has kept Broadway in hilarity ever since. In telling of the play the same newspaper said:

"It did one's heart good to see the audience at the Astor last night. It laughed at 'Seven Days,' and never stopped until it was on the sidewalk. This farce, by Mary Roberts Rinehart and Avery Hopwood, is one of the most amusing plays in years. It is another of those exceptional successes for which the Astor has become famous."

So great has been the success of this play that it is now in its second year in New York, having run uninterruptedly through the summer, the first comedy ever to achieve this record. Or all the players who have appeared in it on Broadway, Messrs. Varenhals & Kemper have formed a special cast, which will be seen at the Academy Christmas, matinee and night.

Three Races Selected.
Montgomery, Ala., December 21.—At Jetholathie today the first series of all-age stakes in the Southern Field Trials was run and finished. Three races were selected for the second series, which will be run to-morrow. They are Tom and Commissioner; Master Ben and Summit Rex; Pride of Whitestone and Scuppernon.

The only pointer running, Merlin's King, Red and Milton were held in reserve.

Davis-Crittenden.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Fletcherburg, December 21.—Lucius Davis, a prominent farmer of

Orange county, and Miss Elizabeth Crittenden, daughter of Dr. W. J. Crittenden, were married last evening at the home of the bride's father at Unionville. Mr. and Mrs. Davis left for a bridal trip, and upon their return will reside at their home near Lafayette, in that county.

HEALTH INSURANCE

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The man who insures his health is wise both for his family and himself.

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